

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 00550 200928Z

ACTION EA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1644

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, KS

SUBJECT: KOREAN BAPTISTS SEND MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT CARTER ON
INAUGURATION

1. ON JANUARY 20 KOREAN BAPTISTS HELD WORSHIP SERVICE IN
SEOUL KOREA IN HONOR OF JIMMY CARTER'S INAUGURATION AS
PRESIDENT. ABOUT ONE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED ATTENDED SERVICE.
GATHERING RATIFIED MESSAGE TO CARTER WHICH AMONG OTHER THINGS
ASKS THE NEW PRESIDENT TO RECONSIDER MOVES TO WITHDRAW US
FORCES FROM KOREA.

2. TEST OF MESSAGE WHICH HANDED TO ATTENDING EMBOFF FOR
TRANSMISSION IS AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN QUOTE.

HIS EXCELLENCY JIMMY CARTER
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
YOUR EXCELLENCY:

WE, SOUTHERN BAPTISTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, FREELY AND
JOYFULLY GATHERED TOGETHER AT CITIZENS' HALL IN THE CITY OF
SEOUL, WISH YOU THIS DAY PEACE, HEALTH AND ABUNDANT WISDOM
AS YOU ARE SWORN IN THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA.

WE FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE ELECTED TO THIS AUGUST
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OFFICE BY TH WILL OF GOD SINCE THERE IS NO AUTHORITY
EXCEPT FROM GOD, AND THOSE THAT THAT EXIST HAVE BEEN
INSTITUTED BY GOD.

WE KNOW THAT YOU ARE BECOMING PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

OF AMERICA WHEN THE WORLD IS AT ITS MOST CRITICAL STAGE
AND WHAT YOUR OFFICE DOES IS MOST KEENLY OBSERVED BY THE
NATIONS OF THE WORLD.

WE OURSELVES ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE FREEDOM OF
RELIGION WHICH WE ARE ENJOYING SO MUCH IN OUR COUNTRY. WE
LIVE NOT EXACTLY IN THE SAME WAY WITH THE REST OF THE PEOPLES
OF THE WORLD. WE DO HAVE RIGHT TO DIFFER FROM OTHER PEOPLES.
WE HAVE, HOWEVER, TRUTH OF THE FACT THAT THERE ARE ABOUT
FIVE MILLION CHRISTIANS IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND
INDUSTRIAL AREAS. THERE IS NO RESTRICTION IN ANY WAY TO
THE PREACHING OF THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST IN THIS
LAND. NO RELIGIOUS BODY IS SUPPRESSED BY REASON OF BELIEFS
OR MATTER OF RELIGIOUS PROPAGATION.

WE CAN ENJOY THIS FREEDOM ONLY IN A COUNTRY FREE FROM
EXTERNAL INVASIONS, NAMELY, IN OUR CASE, THE IMPENDING
COMMUNIST AGGRESSION, WHICH IS, BY THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD,
CHECKED BY THE COMBINED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA. WE FEEL VERY SURE THAT
WITHDRAWAL TO ANY DEGREE OF THE UNITED STATES FORCES FROM
KOREA AT THIS STAGE WILL GREATLY JEOPARDIZE OUR FREEDOM OF
RELIGION IMMEDIATELY.

WE, THEREFORE, MOST EARNESTLY REQUEST THAT YOU WILL GIVE
A VERY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO OUR PETITION AND RECONSIDER
THE PLAN OF REDUCING OR WITHDRAWING OF THE UNITED STATES
FORCES FROM KOREA. WE KNOW THAT YOU ARE A CHRISTIAN
POLITICIAN AS YOU OPENLY PROFESS, AND THE QUESTION, "WHY
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NOT THE BEST?", IS ASKED NOT ONLY BY ADMIRAL RICKOVER BUT IT
MAY BE ALSO ASKED BY GOD HIMSELF WHO HAS BROUGHT YOU UP
TO YOUR OFFICE. AND, WE KNOW THAT YOUR BEST UNDER GOD
INCLUDES THE PROTECTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU.

JANUARY 20, 1977 CORDIALLY ADOPTED AND SENT BY
SOUTHERN BAPTISTS IN REPUBLIC OF KOREA
GATHERED FOR WORSHIP SERVICE IN HONOR OF
JIMMY CARTER'S INAUGURATION AS
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

CITIZENS' HALL, SEOUL, KOREA
END QUOTE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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